

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OIC-02

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R 171846Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8490

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0451

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ENRG

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSUMER/
PRODUCER CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL, PREPARA-
TIONS FOR THE PREPCON AND THE FULL CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE
ARE GOING WELL. THE MAJOR UNRESOLVED ISSUES, HE BELIEVES,
ARE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE IEA ITSELF AND THE DETERMINATION
OF WHAT COUNTRIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FULL CONFERENCE.
END SUMMARY.

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2. CASPARI EC COMMISSION DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AND COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE ON THE IEA STANDING GROUP ON PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, IS PLEASED WITH THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE PREPARATORY AND FULL CONFERENCES OF CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS. HE HAD JUST GONE THROUGH THE PAPERS SUBMITTED BY IEA DELEGATIONS ON THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE AND HE SAID HE FOUND A WIDE CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS. HE THOUGHT THE US PAPER WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION AND OTHER DELEGATIONS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TURKEY, WHICH, HE SAID, HAD A SPECIAL PROBLEM. HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

3. CASPARI SAW TWO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS REMAINING. THE FIRST WAS THE QUESTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE IEA AT BOTH THE PREPARATORY AND THE FULL CONFERENCES. THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM WAS NOT THE FRENCH, HE SAID. THEY NEEDED THE CONFERENCE AND HE DOUBTED THEY WOULD ULTIMATELY BLOCK IEA PARTICIPATION. THE PRODUCERS, HOWEVER, DID NOT WANT OPEC TO BE REPRESENTED AS SUCH, ALTHOUGH THEY WILL NOT ADMIT IT. ACCORDING TO CASPARI THEY WILL SAY THAT THEY DO NOT WANT THE IEA TO ATTEND AND, AS A CONCESSION, THEY WILL NOT INSIST ON THE OPEC'S ATTENDANCE EITHER.

4. THE SECOND MAJOR PROBLEM WAS PARTICIPATION AT THE CONFERENCE ITSELF. CASPARI DID NOT FAVOR THE ALGERIAN PROPOSAL OF A BILATERAL COMPOSITION -- A BALANCE BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIALIZED AND NONINDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, WITH THE NON-INDUSTRIALIZED GROUP SPLIT BETWEEN OIL PRODUCERS AND OTHERS. THAT WOULD TEND TO PRODUCE A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THE LDCS. CASPARI FAVORED A CONTINUATION OF THE TRILATERAL CONCEPT OF THE YAMANI FORMULA, BUT HE RECOGNIZED THERE WOULD BE A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN SETTLING ON THE RIGHT COUNTRIES. HE BELIEVED THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE FIVE INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS, FIVE PRODUCERS AND FIVE LDCS. ON THE INDUSTRIALIZED SIDE THERE WOULD BE THE US, JAPAN, THE EC, CANADA, AND A EUROPEAN NEUTRAL -- SWITZERLAND OR SWEDEN -- HE DIDN'T CARE WHICH.

5. HE RECOGNIZED THERE WAS PROBLEM WITH THE BRITISH WHO WISHED TO BE REPRESENTED DIRECTLY BUT HE THOUGHT IT WAS MANAGEABLE. HE BELIEVED THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT ADDRESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITSELF TO THE PROBLEM OF WHICH SPECIFIC COUNTRIES SHOULD ATTEND -- ONLY THE GENERAL COMPOSITION -- FOR EXAMPLE 5-5-5. THE RESOLUTION OF THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE PUT OFF UNTIL AFTER THE UK REFERENDUM ON EC MEMBERSHIP. AFTER THAT, HE THOUGHT, IT MIGHT BE EASIER FOR THE UK TO AGREE TO A SECOND ROW SEAT, WITH THE OTHER NINE, BEHIND THE COMMUNITY. IF THE UK, OR ANY OTHER COMMUNITY COUNTRY, INSISTED ON ITS OWN SEAT AT THE CONFERENCE, ALL THE OTHER NINE WOULD WANT EQUAL TREATMENT

WHICH WOULD PRODUCE A CONFERENCE OF UNMANAGEABLE DIMENSIONS.
GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, CONSUMER GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ECBRU02351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750093-0453
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750345/aaaabohb.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSUMER/ PRODUCER CONFERENCE
TAGS: ENRG, EEC, IEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006